

ROUGH EDITED COPY
may not be a verbatim record of the proceedings

LSI
Senior Corps Session 1: Introducing the FGP-SCP Competition
2019-11-04

CART/CAPTIONING PROVIDED BY:

Premier Visual Voice, LLC
CART, Captioning and Interpreter Services
www.premiervisualvoice.com
216-246-9477

FT

PREMIER VISUAL VOICE
Remote CART, Captioning and Interpreter Services
www.premiervisualvoice.com

Standby for closed captioning.

>> SPEAKER: This webinar is being recorded. The audio for this event is broadcasting by phone and online. The webinar is lecture only. The microphones are muted to reduce background noise. Let's look at the Zoom features for this webinar. At the top of your screen is the view options drop-down menu where you can adjust the size of your screen. In the lower left corner of your screen are the audio options. To the right of the audio options in the middle of your screen, you will notice icons. Simply select an icon to open the feature. The first icon is for the chat panel. If you have questions during the webinar, enter them here. The next icon is the raise hands feature. During this webinar, if you are experiencing technical issues, raise your hand, and then LSI team member will assist you. In the right, you will see closed captioning. Closed caption is provided. Now let's perform a quick sound check. Enter yes in the chat to confirm the audio is working. Okay. It looks like everyone's sound is working. Thanks. Brian, you have the floor.

>> BRIAN COGNATO: Thank you so much and welcome to all of you out there. It is always a pleasure to be able to host a webinar like this. I am joined by Courtney Sutton. Courtney, can you say hello?

>> COURTNEY SUTTON: Hello, everyone.

>> BRIAN COGNATO: We will hear more from her later, but I want to take this opportunity on behalf of the Senior Corps team to welcome you to the FGP and SCP competition webinar. It's an opportunity available right now and I get excited about these opportunities because it is a great time to welcome new folks, introduce the work of the Corporation and Senior Corps to all of you and to reaffirm some of the fantastic work being done by some prior grantees all at

PREMIER VISUAL VOICE

Remote CART, Captioning and Interpreter Services
www.premiervisualvoice.com

once. I'm excited for that, but this opportunity and for this webinar and conversation with all of you. One quick word of warning before we go too far. This is our second time using the webinar Zoom platform. It is a new tool for us. We ask for your patience if we run into technical difficulties. The first time, we had minor issues. If you have technical difficulties, let us know in the chat box and our team will be able to assist. That is also how we will be taking questions, so use the chat box at any time. A couple of provisos on that. We may hold questions until an appropriate time to pick them up. Sometimes it's helpful to get everybody's content before we take questions. Sometimes, if questions are too specific or require a lot of explanation, we will direct you to send them to a mailbox that we will bring on the screen in a little bit. Before we get too much farther, one thing we want to do is get to know you a little bit and see who is here with us. Let's see who in the audience has received a federal grant before? The Corporation for National Community and Service, despite its name, is in fact a federal grant. I am curious to see who has received a federal grant before. We will give that a moment to populate. Let's share the results of that. It looks like we have a strong body of knowledge in terms of federal grant management. But of course, there are some folks who are brand new to the federal sphere too. and that is okay. I actually think that Senior Corps and the Corporation for National and Community Service give a great opportunity (indiscernible) government. We have some more polls just to get -- this specific program, Senior Corps, someone was mentioning in the chat box they had a Senior Corps grant. RSVP is one of the Senior Corps programs. Who out there has a Senior Corps grant already? Who is brand-new for all of this? Who has heard of us but hasn't worked with us before? We will give that a moment to fill up. It looks like most of our attendees have had a chance to answer, so let's share the results. It looks like we have a lot of current Senior Corps grantees with us today. That's fantastic to have you here and interested in new opportunities. You are what has made the Senior Corps community as strong, but it's amazing to see such a lot of people new to the Senior Corps community. This is an opportunity and great opportunity as an

PREMIER VISUAL VOICE

Remote CART, Captioning and Interpreter Services
www.premiervisualvoice.com

entre into who we are and what we do. We will talk more about what Senior Corps is and get you that background. We have one more question. How would you describe the primary field of your organization? This is a little more nebulous. We know it flattens some of your organizations artificially, but it's helpful to us. Mostly aging organizations here today. But a pretty wide distribution of other kinds of organizations too. No matter who you are or level of prior experience, you are welcome here. I hope you will leave this webinar as excited as we are to share it with you. We will be talking about this competition and in particular whether helping you understand the Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion Programs could be right for you. If you are new to all of this, we will only give a little bit of information today. We will give you a certain amount of information and we will point you to where you can learn a little more.

We also want you to understand how to apply for one of these grants if they are right for you. We want you to be able to assess the opportunity and then take action. This is just one in a series of webinars. We will be back tomorrow same time to talk about the Foster Grandparent Program and back on Wednesday to talk about the Senior Companion Program in more depth. Finally, we will wrap up with a step-by-step guide to the application process. Submitting your application in our electronic grants management system. We are going straight through the week Monday through Thursday. All sessions are being recorded, and all of them will be posted on the same website where you got the registration information for today's webinar. That is the link to the top right. We call it our competition headquarters. It will be something we refer to often throughout this webinar. I also mentioned our mailbox. I want to draw your attention to the bottom of your screen down here. I already mentioned that there may be times that we are not able to provide answers to some in-depth question because we just don't have time to go deep on individual organizations or individual situations. That is the email address you can use for any question you don't get answered here today. We also may get more questions than we have

PREMIER VISUAL VOICE

Remote CART, Captioning and Interpreter Services
www.premiervisualvoice.com

time for. You can always use that email address for questions and it is manned by Courtney Sutton, so don't be shy about using that email address. One last note before I hand it over to Courtney. Just what we will be talking about today. Courtney will talk to the basics of the competition, and then I will give a little introduction to the Corporation for National and Community Service and then the two programs that are eligible for competition right now. We will wrap up by giving you a sense of what you can do next, your next steps to get an application in if you think these opportunities are right for you. With that, I will hand it over to Courtney. Courtney, take it away.

>> COURTNEY SUTTON: Thanks, Brian. Competition is actually open right now. We are accepting applications, and you can go into our system and begin your application or submit an application at any point between now and December 6. For this competition, we are only looking at very specific geographic areas, and all of those that are open are listed on our appendix A on the competition website. That appendix A will let you know the amount available for each location. All of this information is included, including some additional information, with Notice of Funding Opportunity available on the competition website page. Just a brief overview of where we have opportunities available. The map we are showing right now has -- it's color-coded. The blue states are states where there are FGP or Foster Grandparent Programs available. The orange or red colored states are states where we have Senior Companion Programs available. Then those in green are some states where we have both options available in some different areas of the state. Then very quickly, this is a preview of our appendix A document. This document actually shows what we have available for funding in the areas that are open. So on the graph going from left to right, it shows -- sorry, on the table going from left to right, it shows the states that are open and the total amount of federal funding, so the amount of funds CNCS would provide for you to run the program, a start date based on our competition right now in the timeline that we are hoping to fill these opportunities

PREMIER VISUAL VOICE

Remote CART, Captioning and Interpreter Services
www.premiervisualvoice.com

within and then the volunteer service years, which we will talk more about later on in the call and later during the week, and then also the exact geographic locations, so the counties that are open to be served by these programs right now. If you do not see the area that you are interested in on the Areas Affected, it may just not be open for competition at this point. We will open it up for questions. If there any questions about any of that information we just shared about competition.

>> BRIAN COGNATO: You can put your questions in the chat box. We know that's a little taste of information about the competition. We probably have lots more questions, and we will go over them. I want to highlight a little about what Courtney talked about specifically about VSYs. Volunteer service years. We will define that and talk more about that later. Then the Areas Affected. I think this is a common question then in the chat box about whether more will be open later, and Courtney, I will take a first crack at that. The way all Senior Corps competitions work is our grants are tied to a specific geographic service area. Usually almost always, we are providing a certain maximum amount of money to serve a specific area. These ones are the ones that are available at this time and will be open in this competition. Now we have these competitions from time to time. Some may actually know we had a competition for a third of our programs, the RSVP program, just earlier this year. It is ongoing, but the applications are closed now, and applications are going under review. There was a whole different set of geographic service areas available then. So I can't speak to what will happen in the future, but this is available right now and these are the areas available right now. Courtney, anything to add?

>> COURTNEY SUTTON: I would add because I didn't say this when we were looking at the slides with appendix A, but that is just for Foster Grandparent. It's possible that there are opportunities that are open in the area or the state you are looking for, and it just wasn't necessarily in Foster Grandparent.

PREMIER VISUAL VOICE

Remote CART, Captioning and Interpreter Services
www.premiervisualvoice.com

I highly recommend that everyone check the website and look at the appendix A for both Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion just to be sure you see what opportunities are open for both programs.

>> BRIAN COGNATO: I want to clarify that was just a screenshot to show you what the document looks like. That was not the complete document. So if you didn't see a state on there in a particular state that's maybe a little bit farther down the alphabet, it doesn't mean it's not there. So this is just a screenshot. This document goes on, and there is more there than you see right now. That's just to show you what it looks like. So please go ahead and check that out. If you already have a Foster Grandparent and Senior grant that's not on there, those are awarded in a noncompetitive process. But generally when we award a Foster Grandparent or Senior Companion Program, usually we fund the first budget year, but we also...three-year performance period. You get the rights to run the program for three years with the money for the first year and money for at the end of the three-year performance period. You go for a process called renewal instead of competing, and you don't have to compete again. You do have to submit an application and there is an evaluation, but the general expectation that it's based on satisfactory prior (Microphone Interference) and not a competitive process. If you need more information (Microphone Interference) portfolio manager if you already have one. It's a different process and similar. The right place to go is the CNCS performance officer or portfolio manager because here we will be discussing the competition available now. Some of the other questions about appendix A I will have to refer you to the actual document on the website. That is where you need to go. Scott, you asked about the funding area with award ceilings. We don't want this presentation to be your one source of information. Go to the website and get the primary information. That is where you need to focus. We will move on to talk about what the Corporation for National and Community Service is in our programs. Courtney, anything to add before I move on?

PREMIER VISUAL VOICE

Remote CART, Captioning and Interpreter Services
www.premiervisualvoice.com

>> COURTNEY SUTTON: No, I don't.

>> BRIAN COGNATO: We want to make sure we are all working from the same basis of information. We are here as representatives of the Corporation for National and Community Service. This is the federal agency that is responsible for supporting civic engagement and volunteerism all across the country. We partner with organizations in communities large and small across the country to give people opportunities to serve their communities and partners that harness the power of service. We have two major programs and a set of smaller programs. Perhaps our best known as the AmeriCorps program. That is administered by the CNCS. The AmeriCorps program engages people to service for a dedicated period of time, usually one to two years, in intensive way. Often, they will go somewhere and serve with AmeriCorps. It's open to people from all ages. There is one program underneath the AmeriCorps umbrella called AmeriCorps [word?] see that has an age target. We are here to talk about Senior Corps, which is programs focused on engaging individuals 55 and older in service. There are some subprograms under Senior Corps, and we will talk about those in a moment. In addition to those two programs, we have (Microphone Interference) including the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of service and Volunteer International Day of Service and Remembrance. We will focus on Senior Corps and the two programs we are here to talk about today. But if you want to know more about other opportunities or you don't see an opportunity on appendix A that's right for you, but you want to see if there's a way to get involved, you can go lots of places. I recommend taking a look at our state profiles or national website. State profiles detail all National Service activity in a particular state. We also are going through a transition, but we have state and/or regional offices depending on where you are. There is someone who's charged with representing National Service to you locally, and you can also follow us on social media. We are here to focus on Senior Corps, which is our set of programs focusing on

PREMIER VISUAL VOICE

Remote CART, Captioning and Interpreter Services
www.premiervisualvoice.com

individuals 55 and older. It is the nation's largest network of older volunteers with over 200,000 volunteers serving in over 23,000 locations. On the screen is a small sample of some of the things that network is achieving. Thank you to many of you who have been instrumental in getting us to this point and contributing to these kinds of outcomes. 50 million hours served each year. Having a real concrete impact on things like elder abuse and opioid addiction, disaster recovery. With Senior Corps itself, it helps our volunteers (Microphone Interference) age. We are now going to give a little bit of a different perspective on Senior Corps and play a video that shows some programs. This video takes place in New York City, but a little bit later, we will look at one from Montana. We have two very different perspectives. Hang on while you see some changes on your screen. (Music) (Presentation Plays)

>> Queens veterans court is here to help all veterans from all different branches that got charged with a crime in Queens County. The veteran component is what makes it different from all of my other treatment courts. The veteran mentor steps in and plays a very important role from the first day.

>> I've been an RSVP veterans mentor here in the veterans court for three years now. From the minute you meet the veteran, it's common ground. There is a bond. Did my basic at Fort Dix.

>> The mentors here are helpful because you sit and talk to other vets that's been there with you and you guys relate, understand each other. You see you are not the only one. It's comforting and helpful.

>> RSVPs are the heart of our program. We love them so much.

PREMIER VISUAL VOICE

Remote CART, Captioning and Interpreter Services
www.premiervisualvoice.com

>> Federation employment guidance service. We serve individuals with developmental disabilities. Our Senior Companion Program consists of nine seniors working here at the Bronx location.

>> I like being a Senior Companion more than I like ice cream.

>> We teach the individuals how to be self-sufficient on their own. Senior Companions are very rewarding. You are helping pass something on to them that they can navigate, help make their lives were enriched.

>> Our Senior Companions provide one-on-one assistance and especially these days when we need to make sure that our individuals have a good skill set and do learn to work in the community. (Music)

>> This is PS IS 184. Our free lunch eligibility, index of the poverty line, is 97%.

>> Over one third of our children reside in temporary housing, the Foster Grandparents are constants that are here, and that's good for our children because it's something that they know is constant.

>> We can give the individual attention because the teacher has so many students that they have to concentrate on.

>> I love school.

>> She loves school.

>> Because I'm a big kid.

PREMIER VISUAL VOICE

Remote CART, Captioning and Interpreter Services
www.premiervisualvoice.com

>> Yeah.

>> And I love to read.

>> She's is able to articulate. She is able to speak, express herself, which she was not able to do when she first came.

>> Our school was a lower performing school. Last year we were in the 1st percentile academically. And this year, we've gained -- we are in the 53rd percentile, so we went from a failing school to a progress report of a low B.

>> Working with the Foster Grandparent do improving reading and math.

>> I am incredibly confident and happy about the impact the Foster Grandparents that we have right now are making.

>> This program is amazing. It really is and we thank you guys a lot.
(Music)

>> The learning center, they come here mostly to get (indiscernible).

>> They are helping me to write in English, art, language, science, science and social studies. Also math.

>> The most rewarding part about being an RSVP volunteer is to connect with new people, new lives.

>> It's gratifying to me when my students do well.

PREMIER VISUAL VOICE

Remote CART, Captioning and Interpreter Services
www.premiervisualvoice.com

>> I am so grateful because every day I go home I feel a little more smart.

>> It's a blessing to have them, I'm telling you. They have helped me so much. I don't think I will stop coming until I achieve that high school diploma, I'm telling you.

>> I've received a couple cards addressed to me and to the tutors. Thank you so much for all your help and encouragement in passing my GED. Dreams begin most of the time with teachers. With you all, I could move on to my next dream. (Music)

>> BRIAN COGNATO: That's a little taste of our programs from a different perspective. That did include all three of our programs. We did that intentionally because we have an opportunity right now to apply for a Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion Program, but our third program RSVP, which is not open now...wherever there's a young person who need support, that's where you will see a Foster Grandparent. In addition, it has a goal of engaging older Americans in service who are -- I'm having difficulties on my screen. Sorry about this. I think we are back. Sorry about that. I appreciate your patience. We are talking about Foster Grandparent Program, and like I said, that is all about building supportive, one-on-one relationships between young people in need and older Americans. It also has an exclusive purpose of engaging older Americans in service at or near the poverty level. Anyone can be a volunteer, but older Americans who are within (Microphone Interference) poverty level can receive a small stipend in volunteering for their service. This is to make sure they get an opportunity to serve that cannot be limited in those circumstances. The Senior Companion Program is similar in a lot of ways. The biggest difference is that instead of a one-on-one relationship with the young person in need, it's with an older person, someone who needs extra support living independently, so

PREMIER VISUAL VOICE

Remote CART, Captioning and Interpreter Services
www.premiervisualvoice.com

that's why it has the slogan making independence a reality. It's built on the one-on-one relationship, but the clientele is going to look different. Senior Companion volunteers do things like help with daily chores, drive to doctor's appointments. They could provide information to older Americans to help them do things like avoid elder abuse or fraud in the home because it is focused on that one-on-one relationship. Like the Foster Grandparent Program, the Senior Companion Program is also specifically targeted to individuals who often don't have an opportunity to serve by offering a small stipend -- the stipend right now is \$2.65 an hour -- for those who are living within 200% of the poverty line. A little bit about the RSVP program, that is our most civil program. Those volunteers can do essentially anything. Whatever the community need needs, an RSVP grantee can do. I like to say, if you can imagine a volunteer doing it, there's probably an RSVP volunteer doing it now. That program is more of a general program. It doesn't have the specific goal of engaging older Americans with low income in service. It is much more broadly targeted. That program is not up for competition right now. There was one. The applications closed I think about a month ago, and there will be another competition pending appropriations next year. So if you want to learn more about that, you can use some of the same resources I showed earlier from CNCS. Another thing we have already hinted out a few times and something we think is special is we have a reliable research that shows that volunteers are healthier, less depressed and less socially isolated by participating in this program. We did a longitudinal study over multiple years and in a second-year follow-up study we found volunteers volunteering in this program, 88% reported fewer feelings of isolation, 84% reported stable or improving health and 78% reported lower depression. These volunteers are serving the community, making impact specifically on younger or older Americans who need assistance, but it has a second-level effect on the volunteers themselves. These are federal programs. What that generally means is the funds come with the basket of rules and regulations. This is not meant to be an in-depth description of all of the rules and regulations. This is meant to

PREMIER VISUAL VOICE

Remote CART, Captioning and Interpreter Services
www.premiervisualvoice.com

indicate just some of the things you are going to need to familiarize yourself with if you are interested in applying for these programs. I will go over these briefly, but I really need to stress that these are not meant to be all-inclusive. These are not meant to be all-inclusive. If you want to learn more, come back to our webinars later this week when we will talk about them in more depth. In those webinars, we will also point you to some specific resources where you can learn more about these. In general, you will get the information you need on the competition website, but we will also sign post you to specific things as we go. To go through these very briefly, this is not meant to be all-inclusive, not meant to be everything you need to know, just to demonstrate the kinds of things that you should be looking for and the kinds of things that you should be paying attention to as you put together application. Each program has a specific kind of assignment in mind and those are one-on-one supportive relationships. As an example, it means a Foster Grandparent should be working with one or two or three specific children in need of some kind of special support and generally not doing broad-based teacher's aide activities, cleaning up a classroom or that kind of thing. That's generally not what a Foster Grandparent volunteer will be doing. All volunteers need to go through a specific criminal history check. There is more information in the Notice of Funding Opportunity. It's so you can include it in your budget. There are minimum and maximum amounts of service. Weekly or hourly. It's actually a recent change to the program, but there are those limits. All grantees must measure their performance according to a certain set of performance measures you can find in appendix B to the funding Notice of Opportunity. If you want to learn more, we will talk about it in the later webinars this week. Because these programs come with a stipend for volunteers, you have to manage the stipend expenditures carefully over the course of the year, and you have to provide a certain amount of preservice orientation or training. Finally -- this will be familiar to some -- you must use the funds in a way that is reasonable, allowable, allocable and necessary...general guidance how to use grant funds. This is not all-inclusive. This is not all the homework you need to do,

PREMIER VISUAL VOICE

Remote CART, Captioning and Interpreter Services
www.premiervisualvoice.com

but this is a general reminder that says, before you apply to the programs, you want to read through the regulations and make sure it makes sense with you and aligns with your vision. We think they have a tremendous power to affect communities. We also want to make sure people go into it eyes wide open and make sure it meets your vision. If you want more information, here are some sources where you can look more into the programs. The video I just showed you and that we will be going back to comes from the site of what we call impact videos. They show our work from multiple perspectives. That included all three programs. You can find some that focus just on the Foster Grandparent Program for example. We also have a website full of actual vignettes of volunteer experiences called Senior Corps Stories. I already mentioned National Service in Your State. This is a really great resource if you want to know what's going on locally. If you follow the instructions you see on the screen right now, you can find a list of all National Service programs in your state by county. If you don't see -- this is another great opportunity -- if you don't see your specific geographic service area in the list, but you want to get involved, get our National Service By State resources because there might be a Senior Corps program in your community right now that you can partner with and otherwise engage with. If you want to know more about some of the rules and regulations I talked about, the manage Senior Corps eGrants site is your best bet for that. That is down here. This is actually where we have all of our public day-to-day resources for our current grantees. We particularly recommend looking at the Senior Corps handbooks you can find on that page. This is how we tell our grantees now how to manage those different requirements. If you want to learn more about (Microphone Interference) in reading this information, that's a great resource. (Microphone Interference) what's called eCFR.gov. CFR stands for Code of Federal Regulations. That may be a familiar resource to those of you who have worked with federal grants. That is the government's official rule book essentially, and each one of our programs has a specific chapter within it. CFR Senior Companion Program and CFR 45 (indiscernible) for the foster senior program.

PREMIER VISUAL VOICE

Remote CART, Captioning and Interpreter Services
www.premiervisualvoice.com

That's a lot of information, so let's pull up a quick poll just to see what people are thinking. Hang on one second as I pull this up. Based on everything that we talked about so far, what are people thinking about applying for? I still see some numbers changing. Unfortunately, unless there's technology I'm not aware of, I have to wait for the answers before sharing. I'm ready to share. It looks like there's just a slight edge for the Foster Grandparent Program. That makes sense (Microphone Interference) right now, but there's also lots of interest in the Senior Companion and a healthy chunk of people, about 14% who are interested in both. That's fantastic. Now is another time for questions. I'm going to start with one question -- I forgot to show the results. You can see what we were seeing. We will leave that up while I go back into the questions. I want to jump back to a question from Jay Sullivan. The program we are applying for is a program currently with a sponsor that had an NGA...effective. Can there be a three-month overlap? This probably won't be entirely satisfying, but that's a great example of a question we need to direct you to the mailbox. The reason is because there's a lot of terms in there like NGA and relinquish that we won't be able to work through with everyone on the line here today. That mailbox is 2020 -- I will put in the chat box for everybody to see. fgpscp@cns.gov. What other questions do we have? Questions about the programs, how they work, the kinds of volunteer engagements you might see? If you have a question, go ahead and drop it in the chat box. All lines are on mute, so the chat box is how we will be taking questions. Chat box is how we will be taking questions. Mary asks what is the VSY, and how is it calculated? That's the next topic so why don't I just go ahead and jump into that if that's where people's minds are? Let's talk about how you can actually get started with your application. We will go through a checklist about what to do. The first thing is find your opportunity in appendix A. We looked at an example of appendix A. That was a screenshot, just the Foster Grandparent Program. Appendix A. That's available as well as the start date as well as the [word?] and the geographic service area. Let's talk about what is a VSY, volunteer service year. That's a way to count hours, a way to count

PREMIER VISUAL VOICE

Remote CART, Captioning and Interpreter Services
www.premiervisualvoice.com

volunteer hours, particularly stipended volunteer hours. One VSY equals 1044 stipended hours. There are 16 ounces in a pound. There are 1044 hours in a VSY. It's a union of stipend and hours. That number comes from an estimate of what a 20 hours per week volunteer would serve across an entire year, 52.2 weeks. That's the calculation. It's 1044 hours. That's all. So using that content, 10 VSYs equals how many hours? Let me know if anyone in the chat can do that math for us. It's 10,440 hours. Just add a zero. The math is pretty easy when you are working with 10. Let's do some other examples. Actually, I will drop back out of my presentation for a second while I try to pull something up. Glad to see that many of us got to the correct answer. Let's do just another couple of examples. We are now in appendix A. I want to do the first couple. We look at the first California opportunity. It says 13 VSYs. That's how many hours? 13 VSYs is how many hours? We have people doing the math. Let's see if that's what we have. We can do the same math again. I want to point out if you are really on top of the game and really good with a calculator, all of these things are so scaled the same. I would like to ask someone in the chat box to divide the next opportunity we see here, this Idaho opportunity, divide that number by 6000. Go ahead and divide that number by 6000. Tell me what you get. Please divide it by -- let me scratch that out -- 6000 and tell me what you get. 35.8. Some people are coming in with 35.8 which rounds to 36. If you divide all of these total funding announcements by 6000, you will get that volunteer service year number. That's where they come from. It is \$6000 per volunteer service year. A couple things to highlight. This funding amount is the maximum. So that is a maximum amount of funding available. You can technically request less, and this volunteer service year number is a minimum, so you can have more service than what is required here, but that is the minimum amount of service. I saw a question. These are measuring specifically stipended hours. That's because the VSY is tied to a stipend. You can even figure out the dollar value by multiplying the number of hours by the stipend amount, which is \$2.65 per hour. That's what VSY is, and that's what you have to be balancing in your mind, the maximum funding of

PREMIER VISUAL VOICE

Remote CART, Captioning and Interpreter Services
www.premiervisualvoice.com

available with the minimum amount of service. Our constituents in the world, as federal taxpayers, we have a certain expectation of value for money, and expectation of influence these grants are generating with the \$6000 per VSY threshold. The first step in the competition is to go ahead and make sure you find an opportunity in appendix A and understand all of what's in there. Let's go ahead and move on. Apologies. I need to clean out the annotations. There we go. We already talked about appendix A and VSY. Next, you want to review the Notice of Funding Opportunity in depth. (Microphone Interference) what is CNCS looking for in this competition? What makes a good application? That is the best answer. That is what makes a good application. The evaluation criteria. These are the very same things that CNCS will use to evaluate your applications, so that is what you should be using. That is not all you should pay attention to in the Notice of Funding Opportunity. But it's an incredibly important document. That's our equivalent of what might be known as a request for proposal, so study that document. But when you craft your application, the evaluation criteria will be very important to make a competitive application. When you are actually putting the application together, we recommend using a word processing program like Microsoft Word or Google Docs or Word Perfect. Your application has to be submitted in something called eGrants. You can find more information in the Notice of Funding Opportunity. It's an online tool, and it's a little clunky for drafting. It is not meant for drafting, but for organizing and submitting, which means you will want to do your drafting in this word processing document. That's where you are going to work on it. That includes your performance measures. As you will see when you start to look at the application, we request performance evaluation in a work plan. It's kind of like table. For those of you familiar with logical framework, it's based on that model. We (Microphone Interference) that you can use to do that in a word processing program, so you don't have to do that in the piece of software. EGrants. You need to create an account for eGrants and make sure you do that. Your authorized representative, legally authorized to bind your organization in a contractual arrangement -- very often it will be in

PREMIER VISUAL VOICE

Remote CART, Captioning and Interpreter Services
www.premiervisualvoice.com

Executive Director or someone at that level -- will need to actually certify the application. Instructions on this are available on the competition page. There are also a couple of administrative steps you need to take, register in SAM and request a DUNS number. They are easy to miss, and you don't want to wait until the end of the process to do that. Not terribly labor-intensive, but very important and not something you want to be thinking about on Thursday, December 5. That brings us to our last recommendation about what to do, which is don't be planning to do anything on December 6. Plan to submit your application early. I recommend 10 business days. If that is not realistic, just do what you can do. You do not want to be sitting on eGrants on Friday, December 6, 2019. There is a hotline for help if you run into any technical glitches. You will need to do things like check word count. I fill out the budget, fill out your performance measures. All of that can take time, so you want to be ahead of the game and ready to submit your application early. I cannot stress that enough. You do not want to be on eGrants at 4:59 Eastern time on Friday, December 6. Get the application in early. We are going to show one more video. We showed one video that emphasized or highlighted Senior Corps programs in New York City. Now let's take another perspective and look at Senior Corps programs including the Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion Programs in Montana. (Presentation Plays) (Music)

>> We are on seventh Street in Missoula, Montana currently building our sixth home in Missoula County. We are building for the Mlddlestadt family, and what's priceless about the RSVP volunteers is by using their labor on our build site and in our office, we are able to keep the cost of the home affordable. They are priceless because they are allowing these families to purchase a home and keep it affordable for them.

>>Come on in, and I'll show you my new house. Here's one of the kid's bedrooms, another kid's bedroom. This is our room. I'm glad to be a homeowner finally.

PREMIER VISUAL VOICE

Remote CART, Captioning and Interpreter Services
www.premiervisualvoice.com

>> I have a Senior Companion. We go grocery shopping to pick up my prescriptions, my doctor appointments.

>> I help Missoula aging helps the state. We are all working together to keep these people safe and in their homes, if we can, so the cost is so much smaller.

>> It saves the state a lot of money. It saves me a lot of money, and it's just nice to be independent and live independently.

>> If I didn't have a Senior Companion, I would be really lost.

>> I have been a principal for 20 years, and I've worked with Foster Grandparents all of those years. The Foster Grandparents are really key in our testing program. You definitely see advances in nonacademic areas because children benefit from that one-on-one attention they get.

>> We do have a 20 to one ratio, so having another person in the room, another adult, just makes it a lot easier for us to help teach these kids.

>> The progression, you can't believe it. I had one little girl who wouldn't say anything at Headstart. When it got to the end of the year, she was talking. She was using please and thank you.

>> I volunteer four hours a day. I could leave for lunch, but those kids all want to eat lunch with me every day.

>> One of the things that I really like about volunteering with RSVP is that not only are we giving back to the community, but we are also saving money

PREMIER VISUAL VOICE

Remote CART, Captioning and Interpreter Services
www.premiervisualvoice.com

for the library where we work mending books. Because if we weren't there to mend books, they would just be thrown away and we were trained by a staff member there and then she was able to go back to her regular job.

>> We serve about 250 meals a day to our clients. With my background as a physician for 40 years, my main function with Meals on Wheels is to do nutritional follow-ups on the clients to make sure that they are being adequately provided for.

>> As an RSVP volunteer, I've used skills that I've amassed over my professional career. People sit at computer terminals and I help them if they are not computer savvy to navigate different plans on Medicare.gov.

>> It's companionship. It's wonderful. It's -- you know, there's grace.

>> When I get back to the house after visiting with them, it's just like, feels good.

>> As a volunteer, it puts some action in my life. I love the community and I love the service that it does. (Music)

>> BRIAN COGNATO: I like to end on that uplifting note that shows you the real impact in the community. That video included the one program, RSVP, that is not open for competition right now but will be again next year. So if that's what you are interested in, keep us in mind for those future opportunities. Let's go ahead and take some other questions here. I see some. Mary asked, do current grantees have to create a new eGrants account? No. If your organization has an eGrants account, that should be sufficient, but make sure it's active and your authorized representative knows how to sign in. We want to make sure you don't run into technical difficulties. I see [name?] emphasizing we want to get

PREMIER VISUAL VOICE

Remote CART, Captioning and Interpreter Services
www.premiervisualvoice.com

applications in early. Absolutely. If we have any other questions, now is a great time for those questions. We are coming down to the end of our webinar. You can see on the screen the 2020FGPSCP@cns.gov email address. Would you please explain the \$6000 per VSY? There are different ways you can think about that. The first thing I'm going to do is go back to our zoom in on the FGP appendix A. Let me go ahead and do that. The first way you can understand the \$6000 per VSY is it's how we determined the minimum VSYs for each opportunity. 13, \$78,000 divided by [word?] equals 13.... Equals 64. So on, on down the line. That's one way you can think of it. It's the minimum amount of volunteer activity that you can have for the amount of funding available measured in hours. That's all that \$6000 is. If you already looked into the Notice of Funding Opportunity, you will see that \$6000 number comes up in a second way, which is measuring performance. We will go more into that in our later webinars, but for the two specific programs, you will need to measure the performance of the number of VSYs in a particular way, and any service above that -- let's say for this California opportunity you prefer 14 or 15 VSYs to service. You don't need to subject that additional service to the same measures. The \$6000 comes up in two different ways. Here we've talked about it mostly in terms of how (indiscernible) volunteer service years, but it also comes up when we think about performance in later webinars too. I want to fast-forward so we get that question up on the screen. Let's see. If you are interested in pairing with foster youth, do you have to choose the outcomes for education, etc.? The best way to answer that question is you do need to use the outcomes you see in our national performance measure instructions. Each program has a set of performance measures in them including -- it looks like this is a Foster Grandparent Program. It says there's a focus area for education, but I think if you look at the photos gets area, you will see a diverse, different measures you can choose within that depending on what you are doing. You need to follow the instructions and choose from that menu, but hopefully you'll find enough of a range there to suit your program. Is this competition just available for one 2020 grant period or does

PREMIER VISUAL VOICE

Remote CART, Captioning and Interpreter Services
www.premiervisualvoice.com

this include those that have a July 1 start date? I don't know offhand. Courtney, do you know if we have any July 1 opportunities in either of our (indiscernible)?

>> COURTNEY SUTTON: For all of the programs that are listed on appendix A, there should currently not be a program that is serving those areas. So we are hoping to be able to start those programs on April 1. It doesn't necessarily mean that everything will start April 1, but right now the projected start date for those programs for those areas listed on appendix A is April 1.

>> BRIAN COGNATO: Thank you. Is application review criteria the same? I'm actually not entirely sure I understand your question. Feel free to jump in and clarify. The evaluation criteria are what we use to review applications. I'm not sure if that's what you are getting at. That's what we used to review applications, the evaluation criteria that you see in the Notice of Funding Opportunity. Jill asks does the entire \$6000 have to go to stipend or can that be used for staff too? The amount you need to spend on stipends is going to be \$2.65 times the number of hours. Can somebody multiply 13,572 times \$2.65? Let's see if anyone has that in the chat. It looks like Carmella is the quickest. It's about \$36,000. That would be the amount that that opportunity has going to stipends. The rest of the funding is used for the rest of the program. Also note that is a minimum number of volunteer service years and a maximum amount of funding. So if you have more volunteer service years, particularly stipended, that number might be higher. But the number you see there, \$6000, that's not the expenditures on stipends. It's a ratio, how we determine the right number of stipends for the size of the federal grant. The site says review criteria not evaluation criteria. Apologies. I'm mixing words there. We will just go to the site, and I will show you exactly what I'm talking about. While I do that, let's -- someone's letting me know if I -- someone let me know I missed a question. So if someone volunteers and makes more than,,, VSY \$2000 threshold is a measure of stipend and activity. But let's go to the website. I will use our search engine.

PREMIER VISUAL VOICE

Remote CART, Captioning and Interpreter Services
www.premiervisualvoice.com

I'm here on our competition website. You can see lots of resources here. In particular the resource we want to use is Notice of Funding Opportunity. You can see there's one for each program. We were using the FGP appendix A. We will go ahead and use the SCG Notice of Funding Opportunity. Scroll down to what we are thinking about. Here we go. It does say review criteria and then you see the criteria. Apologize for using the wrong word there, but this is certainly what I was talking about. The criteria we used to review the application. Hopefully that's self-explanatory and the criteria looks like criteria you might be custom to seeing. As we come down to the final minutes, I will pull up a couple things so you can let us know how we did. Please answer the poll questions to help us improve for next time. If there are no other questions, I want to stress how excited we are to offer this opportunity. We hope you will take advantage. We are excited to see some applications. I'm excited to know there are many people who are already in the Senior Corps community interested in expanding their work and excited to see people coming in from outside the community who are interested in coming into this vibrant set of programs all across the country. If there are no more questions, we will go ahead and sign off. This session has been recorded. The recording will be up on the website. We have more training to come throughout the weekend more resources. Thanks, everybody. Have a great afternoon and good luck.

(End of Session)

PREMIER VISUAL VOICE

Remote CART, Captioning and Interpreter Services
www.premiervisualvoice.com